THE SYDNEY

ANARCHIST

QUARTERLY

OUT NOW

"I was a teenage lifestylist until Rudolph Rocker came into my life and saved me" - Confession of a born again Anarchist.

EDITORIAL

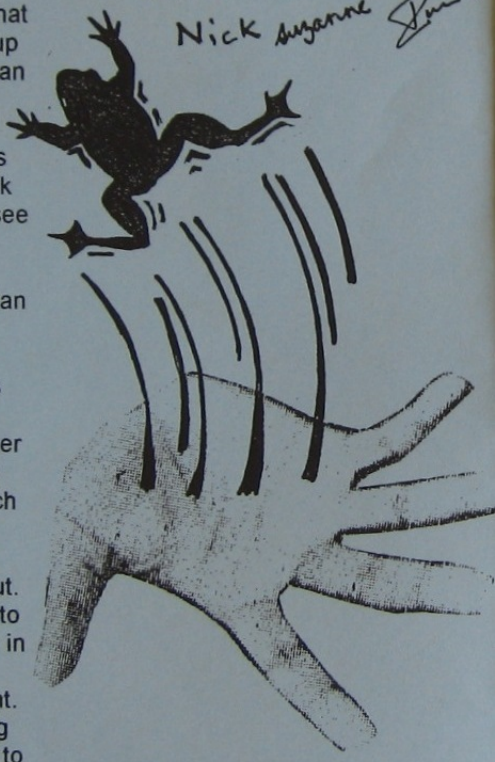
Hi, welcome to the Aug 94 issue of the Sydney Anarchist newsletter.

There has been quite a bit of dissatisfaction expressed over the newsletter for the past few issues especially. How was it decided what should go in? It wasn't readable, it didn't look very good, etc.
At the last pow-wow these issues were raised, and it was decided that a group should go off and come up with some ideas/guidelines that can help deal with some of these problems. Somewhere in these pages you'll find the results of this meeting for you to ponder and talk about, and at the next pow-wow see if we can come up with some general guidelines.

From the perspective of being an editor it seems that the editorial collective could use some more feedback from anyone who reads this paper, other than continual criticism. The editors put this paper together for nothing and can only do so much when there isn't much to work with, in the past contributions have been minimal and/or late, untyped or not laid out. Other people getting information to the editorial collective, especially in the case of the "what's on/upcoming events", is important. If you feel that something is being left out then the best idea seems to be to do something about it, layout a page for the paper, volunteer to be on the editorial collective, or at least try and talk with someone who is on the editorial collective.

Contributions, mail, suggestions, money, subscriptions, art work, news or whatever can be sent to either Black Rose Books or Jura Books. The next newsletter will be due out about Nov, so get your contributions in at least 2 weeks before then.

That's all folks! chuck Nick suzanne Jon.



Subscriptions Available- $5.00. Request quantities for distribution.
Make Cheques payable to Black Rose, or send equivalent in stamps.

WHATS ON ?

MON 1ST AUG- Media Room Meeting *at Jura Books (110 Crystal St, Petersham) 7.00,* For more info and meeting times ring 564 6413

WED 3RD AUGUST- Visions Of Freedom Conference, Steering Committee Meeting, *Jura, 6.30.*

SAT 6TH AUGUST- OUTA CONTROL- *live Techno, benefit for Media Roo*
$7/5. Golden OX, Regent St, REDFERN

FRI 12TH AUGUST- TRANCENDANCE- *live Techno and DJ's- benefit for Skid Row . Agincourt Hotel, Broadway (opp. Central Bus Stand).*

FRI 19TH AUGUST HUGE WILD PARTY!

SUN 22ND AUGUST- DRUGS- Discussion Meeting , *Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, 7.30pm.*

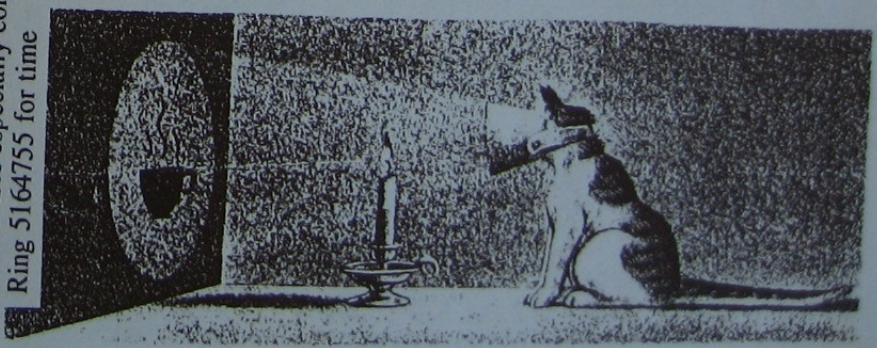
TUE 30TH AUG -Anarchy in Crisis 1920'S, 1930'S Anarcho Syndicalism VS Bolshevism in France, Spain and Italy. Anarcho Syndicalist talk. *NEWTOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE.*

SAT 1ST SEPT- CHAOS TV- OPEN TRANSMISSION EVENT. *At The GOLDEN OX, Regent St., Redfern.*

SUNDAY 18 SEPT *@narchist Pow Wow-* details to be announced.

THURSDAY 29TH SEPT - CHAOS TV *at the Golden OX.*

Wed 10th Aug Newt. Neib. Cent. Meeting re changes to NNC and its uses especially concerning gigs there. Ring 5164755 for time



JURA NEWS

Well, the last few months have been very heartening for us and have given us a warm and fuzzy feeling all over. The reason is because for the first time in ages we are staffed by volunteers for 6 days of the week. This is quite remarkable as it gives everyone a sense of real unity and there's nothing better than that for any political organisation. The newest members are Ragnar (one of our best customers who turned volunteer... to read books for free I suspect.) and Violet, who is getting into it boots and all... excuse the pun. A big hello and WELCOME to you both and thanx!!!

We just put the finishing touches to the iron grating out the back which includes a row of razor sharp spikes atop a fence section which now sits a total of approx. 24 feet high making for a very tired and bleeding would be thief.

Graham and the collective are exited and anxiously await his new book on See-Sharp press. It will be released real soon and you can bet we'll have more than one copy available in the store. Good on you Graham. Most of the other folks here seem to be running around a fair bit organising/involved in stuff, ie. Peter is doing the Chomsky and Geddes thing, Paul is the doing the film thing and Jamie the Macquarie Uni Conference. Maybe some of the readers will be involved or come across as a reminder of some upcoming events.

The Debt Elimination Appeal (D.E.A) is going quite well. Although it's over $7000 - now we still need more so donations are welcome. By the way, contrary to what one person thought the other day D.E.A does not, in this case, stand for Drug Enforcement Agency.

And on that note
I'll see you later
Haron, Jura Collective.

NEW ARRIVALS : BOOKS

* Terrorising the Neighbourhood: N. Chomsky - $ 5
  N. Chomsky's report on Amerikkkan foreign policy.
  How the third world is forced by multinationals to subsidise it with raw materials and cheap labour hence keeping the status-quo.
* Englands Dreaming: J. Savage - $ 19
  A must-have for anyone who likes/liked punk music.
  600 pages of great reading facts and figures including extremely rare photos of some personalities of that era.
* Amnesty : Various - $ 5
  Collection of writings commisioned by Amnesty Int. Incluing 12 works by such people as Manning Clark, Bryce Courtney and Tom Kenneally.
* Natural magic of mulch: M.J.Roads - $ 11
  Healthier, easier gardening using mulching methods Aust style.

JUSTICE *SWAY*

Born, the world was spinning backwards
All he heard were ugly blackwords

Nigger, Coon, Spick and Spade
Spook and Kaffa, his dues were paid

Mothers toil and fathers sweat
Their son at school was scorned and threat

Twelve years, twelve years of great dismay
His youthful years had gone their way

Job interviews no easy task
Blue eyes, white skin is what they ask

His ego bruised, was feeling worn
His self-esteem was ripped and torn

Whilst walking home from local bus
Was stopped by red-neck cop for sus

On his shoulder, a gloved hand
Did nothing wrong, nor understand

He summoned all his dreamtime power
This time, would not step back or cower

He pulled his knife, his soul did bless
And laid the cop in bloodied mess

Was on the run, but caught soon aft
Would trial be fair? No, don't be daft

Two-thirds white jury, white magistrate
Threw him in jail and closed the gate

He was trapped in the white snakes lair
Come winter, strapped in the chair

Appeals, appeals, they were reject
By the man his vote did help elect

Just like a homing missile SCUD
The public want, thirst, for blood

Winter came, the cold was real
The warden brought in his last meal

His light
s went out before he knew
Before the grass had gathered dew

Was kept behind electric mesh
Now electric burning flesh

This was a tale of justice sway
How many more will sway this way?

By Haron.

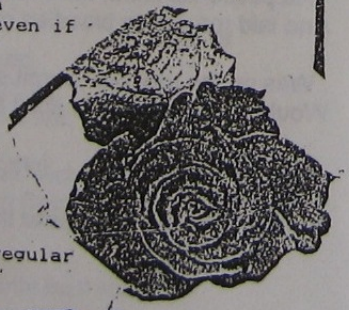
BLACK ROSE ANARCHIST BOOKSTORE

Well, here we are three months on, with the smells of change in the air at Black Rose. Suprisingly enough, sales seem to have improved to what may be sufficient to put us in the Black(sic). We haven't actually sat down and worked all the figures out, nor do we have any idea why or how long it will last- important really, considering that the costs of the overheads have been running the stock down to the tune of $100 or so a month for quite a while now.

This change looks to be in part because of our increased dealings with Spiaral Objective. From what I've heard he's being overloaded with all his committments; to alleviate this, and ensure the distribution of the stock CHEAPLY, he has offered records to us and Phantom, who seem to totally taken advantage of his dedication, and not passed the savings onto the beloved consuming public... so, don't give the bastards your money; come to us! If you know that Greg gets what you want, then it may be worth waiting 'til we score it from him, so that he doesn't have a billion small orders; we intend to re-order every 60 days.

SOOOO.... many thanks to Greg for his rare dedication and damn hard work, we all have a lot to thank him for. Thanks also
to everyone who helped out with the last benefit-sometimes more tha is fair to ask... you know who you are. xox

If you would like to help out, we need/desire the following... odds and ends for a garage/Black Elephant sale, a set of bookshelves for the library, someone to connect the stove and reconnect an old light fitting in the main shopfront window (electricians that is!!!) As usual any donations do go a long way a phonecall needs either a .25¢ donation or a $1.25 sale.... interesting really! Something we have been discussing is asking for rent pledges, $5-$10 weekly or monthly from enough people to cover the $670/month rent (cheap yes, but still too much!); this could be saved by consuming more wisely/ecologically/healthily; sure it can be a damn hassle, but I reckon thta it's worth it for a lot of reasons, even if you don't pass the savings onto a "cause" you don't need a job to do this, even though the amount of dole does stink I think thta Black Rose is important and that's why I say this shit, it's NOT a guilt trip, just a hard reality the shop is facing: it will go under unless something changes. Why not organise a fund raising collective, gigs with food and raffles... allocating the money to various anarchist/related projects, in a regular



Gro-Well™

cont. p11

IDEAS FOR EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

For the past two issues of the Sydney Anarchist Newsletter there have been a number of issues and problems raised, which relate to editorial policy, lay out and on what basis contributions were included/excluded. At the last Anarchist Pow-wow a group of people volunteered to work on a draft of editorial guidelines; in an effort to address and deal with these problems. We talked, argued, laughed, cried, whipped ourselves and came up with these suggestions to be discussed at the next Pow-wow;

FOCUS

The Sydney Anarchist Newsletter is to focus primarily on local news and events of the anarchist community in Sydney. It aims to let people know what's going on and how they can get involved.

FORMAT

*A5 format to be kept as it's a good size for local news and reports
*The format is open to change e.g. to A4 size.
*Contact list and "what's on" to be kept as a regular thing.
*The size of the print has to be kept readable (9 point or above). Copies enlarged to A4 size to be available on request.

CONTRIBUTIONS

*Articles to be typed and layed out in A5 format (with 1cm borders) wherever possible.
*Contributors to give a contact number or address for the editorial collective that will be kept confidential.
*Specify if letters are for publication.
*It's important for contributions to come in before the deadline or that the editorial collective is contacted about late submissions.
*An A5 page limit on contributions in general.
*Adds for local non-profit groups to have a size limit of half an A5 page.
*If people want their contributions returned to include a stamped, self addressed envelope.

EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE

*Priority will be given to reports and articles on local news and events in Sydney anarchist community
*Preference may be given to articles typed and layed out in A5 format due to time and space limits.
*All collective members have to agree on a contribution being excluded.
*There is no obligation on the editorial collective to print all contributions.
*If someones contribution hasn't been published and they want to know why they can contact the editorial collective via the media room (c/o-110 Crystal St, Petersham, 2049. Ph 5646413)
*If the content of a contribution is to be changed the person is to be contacted and if time allows to be returned to the person to be changed and resubmitted.
*Editorial collective to rotate with assistance from previous collective.
*To keep an ongoing diary about process and problems. For each editorial collective to record information to help future collectives.
*All things relating to the newsletter to be kept at the media room.
*A disclaimer to be included.

THE WHEEL THING

Car fumes, unruly trucks, too many stairs - not enough ramps, police harassment, mad dogs, abusive rev heads, auto-centric road planning...

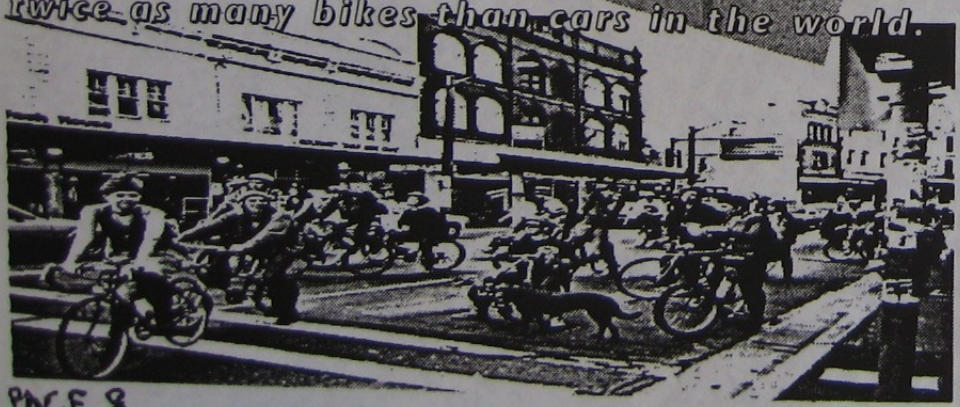
We'd had a lung full, so at the Mayday picnic we decided that it was time for a BIKE pRIDE - an arvo of myrth and mayhem, turning Newtown into a people powered parade.

World enviro day seemed like a good excuse, so we met in Erko parks, decorated our bikes, skateboards, noise trolley, and rollerblades, and headed up to King St.

Misso Rd roundabout was a revolving spoke spiral. We handed out leaflets, blew party whistles, bounced to roller powered techno, spraypainted pro-pedal slogans on the road, and most of all had the good feeling of out numbering the smog machines for once.

The action was fun and effective. My main criticism was that we had most impact when we were bunched up, feeling strong together, and totally blocking cars. But when we stretched out, and fell back into line, we let linear "follow the fastest leader" thinking take over.

Let's plan more fun and empowering actions like this. And next time you feel that CARmageddon is here, remember there's twice as many bikes than cars in the world.



Phil.F

SOMETHIN' TO SAY?

As Anarchists we are proposing a radically different society. Why would this society be any better than the one we've got already? How would we bring about the kinds of changes we'd like to see? What kinds of problems are we going to encounter along the way? Are we wasting our time?

Our society today is a complex one and to make any progress towards a libertarian society we need to better understand and make sense of how it works and why. In order to do this we are proposing regular discussion groups within the Anarchist movement (perhaps monthly) as a step in this direction .

So often, the only ideas we encounter are those propagated through the mainstream media. In effect we often end up listening to lies, distortions of truth and misrepresentations. But it's no good just whinging about the media. We need to put forward our own ideas and criticisms coherently and add an intelligent Anarchist perspective to debate in the wider community. So where do you stand on .....?

Education
Class Struggle
Feminism
Family Values
Indigenous Cultures
Sexuality
Racism
Environmentalism
Housing
Community Defense and Justice
Drugs

And this is just for starters!!!

There's only one way to find out.....open discussion and debate as equals. These discussions will not involve anybody pushing a party line or set of politically correct ideas that participants are expected to accept without question.

Nobody has all the answers or the blueprint for change. The best we can hope for is to learn from each other and pinpoint common threads between us which will help us become much more effective as a movement. Better organization, networking with others, sharing ideas, experiences and skills, building up a sense of comradeship and having a good laugh are all things we stand to gain through regular communication and debate.

If we are going to be an effective movement working for social change and building resistance wherever and whenever necessary we need to come up with credible ideas and strategies.

DRUGS

August 22nd, 7.30pm
Newtown Neighbourhood Centre

Media hype about decriminalization and legalization of drugs
Drug misinformation and the propaganda war
Drug use and abuse
Drug abuse - problems for the community
Legal and Illegal drugs
Business involvement in drug trade

Bring along any info, propaganda.....

VISIONS OF FREEDOM

an anarchist conference & festival

in Sydney, probably over a weekend in Jan.1995 (dates & venue(s) still being determined)

After discussions at the recent Sydney Anarchist Pow Wow (19 June) & with various non-Sydney people, a steering committee is hereby inviting contributions, expressions of interest, offers to join the steering committee, etc. We want YOUR ideas & involvement. We would like formal papers & workshops, musical, artistic, culinary & other events. We hope to attract people - both anarchist & non-anarchist, from throughout OZ & from overseas - who believe in freedom, equality & solidarity & want to explore their visions of freedom ...

contact: VISIONS OF FREEDOM, c/o 110 Crystal St., Petersham, 2049 (Ph: (02) 5509931), &/or come to the next meeting of the steering committee, on Wednesday 3 August, at 6.30 pm at 110 Crystal St...

On Saturday the 17th september (day before the next Pow Wow). A meeting aimed specifically at the information distribution collectives in Australia/Sth Pacific; is being held (tentativley) on the Jura premises. Actual topics for discussion will probably be set beforehand so that the most pressing issues can be dealt with effectively.

So... if you are interested in coming along- let us know if you have any major concerns or ideas that need public discussion and we'll try to fit it all in.

So far invitations have been sent to all(?) the Anarchist bookshops and a few groups intent on starting up; anarcho-distros like Spiral Objective and SBCD/Profane as well as a few others that may be interested. So far a few have confirmed their interest and intention to come. The date is not fixed yet.

Reasons: The number of groups involved in info distribution has exploded over the last twelve months, this gives our movement(?) as a whole, vast opportunities to be more effective and efficient- cheaper info accesible in more places

by co-ordinating ordering, specialising where feasible (ie:importation of periodicals), we waste less effort, money, and even stock; with less overall risk and a larger range of available stock.

a bunch in Adelaide have a lot of capital to spend soon, so they want to do it in the most effective way to assist info distribution/availability in Adelaide and the region as a whole.

Lots to discuss - stay alert or contact Black Rose!!!

SELF-RELIANCE WORKSHOP

Finding ways of supporting ourselves and enjoying life at the same time is not easy, especially if we want to be ethical about it. As a lot of us know, the dole is not the straightforward proposition it once was. A workshop run by Lillian Geddes at Jura Books on Tuesday July 13 focussed on stuff like this, and looked at how non-profit projects like Black Rose and Jura might be able to pay their workers.

Lillian had some good ideas for working alongside other people without too much conflict and also talked about housing co-ops. It would have been good to get down to the nitty-gritty on some of these issues but so many broad questions kept coming up. Is it better to work in groups or independently? Should projects like the bookshops pay workers or should they be volunteer-run? There was a lot of discussion around all this, and some talk of co-ops that have worked well overseas. Some of Lillian's suggestions challenged our ideas on the way anarchists should organise.

Despite the fact that it was a rainy, miserable night, a lot of people attended, which shows how many of us are into being self-supporting and looking at different ways of working together.

IT'S ALL SYSTEMS GO!

The Media Room Project is coming along fine. Here's the latest: Tony has donated a portable IBM computer whilst Doug will be lending us a number of IBM's which will definately get us up an running. The old Mac we had has died (RIP). Our bank balance is $800 and we've now decided to buy an IBM sometime in the near future. A photocopier has been donated and will be available for use ASAP. We've also decided to have regular fortnightly meetings to keep each other up to date with what's going on and really get the Media Room established. These meetings will be held , at the Media Room.

If you're interested or have any info please come to a meeting. To raise some cash for this project we are holding a benefit night on August 6 (see flyer). If you like the idea of this project but can't get involved for whatever reasons you can always send us a little (or a lot) of money as a donation to help out. All donations are greatly appreciated. Our banking details are: Media Room Project, Acc. No. 1050397, University Credit Union, Abercrombie St Chippendale. *See ya round!*

THE MEDIA ROOM

(rear of) 110 Crystal St Petersham 2049

RING FOR INFO +MEETING TIMES 5646413

ANARCHIST ARCHIVE

When I get my shit together; my collection of books will be at Black Rose in the backroom of the shop, available for loan on request with certain restrictions on borrowing to make sure that my faves don't go wandering. Any donations of decent books that only gatner dust or deserve/need to be read by as many peole as possible would be appreciated. Hell if it was important enough to pay $8-$15 on Pilger, Goldman, or some organic gardening book, and you really want to see some lasting change, then others have to be informed too... it doesn't have to be an outright donation, custodianship, or long term loan would be better than nothing.

So lets stop wasting trees, and pool our resources to be a real threat to the bastards.

Can you help with a car to move the collection, a set of shelves to house it better, tips on good books to add, money, reveiws of good titles to appear in various anarchist and related publications etc. Hopefully the collection will consist of a broad range of subjects, fiction, records, video, posters etc....

P.S. thanks to Paul for his assistance and donations.

Nick

Parked cars get stolen - Don't stop

road signs to see more of!

cont. from p⑥

and commited fashion, just like belonging to RAG, or NEFA, Black Rose or any other group.

One final note: if you are putting out info, demo/benefit tapes, making clothes, whatever, don't wait for us to come to you as we are pretty busy as it is, but we really do like to support local, independant projects. It doesn't have to be overtly political, if youv'e done it yourself, or think that it's worthwhile, and it's not misogynist, etc... we might be able to help.

P.S. this isn't necessarily the views of the whole collective so if I've pissed anyone off or sound too boring. remember that, I wrote this at the last moment, and am limited by space constraints.

Nick, for Black Rose

* Earthworms in Australia : D. Murphy - $ 15
  Comprehensive guide to using earthworms in your garden.
* Situationist International Anthology - $ 26
  Excelent Situationist reading incl. reprints of heaps of French S.I journals and Guy Debord soundtracks. 400 pgs.
* The Free : M. Gilliland - $ 7
  About group of kids co-ops and free unions and overcoming obstacles in England. From Attack Publications.
* " The Raven", Anarchist quarterly - $ 5
  New issues, nos 23 & 24 now in stock.
* In the Shadow of the Silent Majorities: J. Baudrillard - $ 7
  Collection of fantastic essays on contemporary subjects written as only the master can. I recommend it.
* Feminism and the Mastery of Nature. Val Plumwood - $ 21
  Was out of stock for a while but now it's back.

NEW ARRIVALS: PERIODICALS

* Industial Worker (under-rated mag) - $ 1
* Love & Rage - $ 1
* Z Magazine - $ 7.40
* Jumpcut (contemporary media review) - $ 6.00
* Earth First - $ 4.00
* Processed World - $ 5.00
* Trouble & Strife - $ 6.00
* Kibbutz News - $ 2.00
* Raise the Stakes - $ 4.00
* Heraclitus (a favourite) - FREE
* HEMP - $ 1
* Creative Action - $ 0.50
* The People (Organ of Am. Soc. Lab. party) - FREE
* Rebel Worker - $ 0.50
* Angry People - $ 1.00
* Kick it Over - $ 3.60
* Freedom - $ FREE

MAILBAG

Last edition of the newsletter, Macca wrote a letter about the meat-eating stuff in the ed. before that, accusing the writer's of "rehashed sloganeering", and attempting to give a "decent argument" for meat eating. Perhaps these slogans were intended to provoke thought and highlight some inconsistencies, rather than present a definitive argument for veganism..

A few questions - why is it often over the dinner table that people eating meat feel they have to *defend* this habit to me - is it that seeing me eat my vegan meal makes them feel guilty and they want me to absolve them? Why is it assumed that it costs heaps to be a vegan? Why is being healthy seen as a timeconsuming "lifestyle" - as if paying attention to what we eat must border on the obsessional. Surely as anarchists it is important for us to take responsibility for our own health?

Isn't it interesting how often it is men who see maintaining health as a *luxury* (rather than a necessity) and use class politics to disguise their laziness about food preparation and their fantasies about apron-clad women serving them chops.

This is reality and this is sexist.

Nicki

Squatt the Forest

Reclaim that it which we have spent millions of years evolving from the evil clutches of corporates. Ancestral forest dwellers have been squatting Dails State Forest since the beginning of the year in hope of establishing an harmonious new nation. We spend our days in ancient grounds absorbing, observing and documenting making music and creating bush arts, aspiring towards self sufficiency. Preparing for the inevitable collapse. We have adopted foods with local Koories of the Gumbaynggirr tribe. They are submitting a land claim for a huge chunk of bush forest, their tribal boundries running from Taree - Bellingen. Bad taste will, in sure policing this process for as long as it can so it is our aim to defend what we can until it is in safe hands. Local concern over waste pollution has also been supportive of our cause. Negotiations with the Forestry Comission has been reasonably successful over a compromise for harvesting sawlogs of unlogged rainforest catchments of endangered critters and butt zones. We may however be up for a bit of a fight as Forestry are planning on using the fire danger period as an efficient eviction technique - for our own safety of course. STAND UP FOR THAT WHICH CANNOT STAND UP FOR ITSELF! KEEP SENSES OPEN WE MAY NEED SUPPORT.

Anyone with time/knowledge to donate on landclaims / legal support - Bunawile Aboriginal Lands Council. BOWRAVILLE 2449 N.S.W.

Come visit.

CONTACTS

AABCC (Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition); ph. 267 2772.
Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Watch Committee; P.O. Box 65, Broadway, 2007, ph. 6606253.
Abortion Action Campaign; Women's Liberation House, 63 Palace Street, Petersham, ph. 569 3819.
AKSI Indonesian Solidarity Action, P.O. Box K717, Haymarket.
Alfalfa House Food Co-op, No chemicals, packaging or profit, Enmore Road, Enmore, ph.519 3374.
Angry People Newsletter; c/- Box 1, 583A King Street, Newtown, 2042.
Animal Liberation; ph. 212 6253.
Australia - East Timor Association; contact Stephen: 331 5986.
Black Rose Anarchist Bookshop, 583a King Street, Newtown, ph. 519 9194.
Bougainville Support Group (1st Monday of the month) Newtown Neigbourhood Centre, contact Vicki: 264 5790 or Moses Haveni: 804 7602.
CAT TV; Lefty - Anarcho community TV group. P.O. Box 636, Newtown 2042.
CEFTAA (Campaign Exposing Frame-ups and Targetting Abuses of Authority); 3rd floor, 391 Sussex Street, Haymarket, ph. 281 5100.
Jura Books, 110 Crystal Street, Petersham, ph. 550 9931
Paddlers For Peace; contact Jenny: 550 2805.
PIECES (People Initiating Education Campaigns Eliminating Sexism); contact: Wendy / Brigitte 805 7730.
Radio Skid Row 88.9 FM; Hut 24 Addison Road Community Centre, Marrickville, ph.550 9552.
Rebel Worker; P.O. Box 92, Broadway 2007.
Vibe Tribe; P.O. Box 691, Newtown 2042.
Women's Library; 73 Garden Street, Alexandria, ph. 319 0529.

LET US KNOW OF ANY OTHER RELEVANT CONTACTS!!